(c) the status of employment of persons as on 30th September, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) The growth of khadi and village industries (KVI) sector during the successive five year plans has been in tandem with overall growth of the economy of the country. Going by the trend, it is estimated that Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) could provide employment to 145 lakh persons (15 lakh in khadi and 130 lakh in village industry) in the KVI sector by the end of eleventh five year plan. As on 31 March 2009, employment has been provided to an estimated 104 lakh persons in KVI sector.

(b) Khadi activities provide employment opportunities mainly to spinners and weavers who usually work from their dwelling units using simple tools and technology and within the time available with them alongwith other livelihood/household activities. The wages to weavers are being paid based on the cost chart prescribed by the Central Certification Committee of KVIC. The remuneration to spinners and weavers are being paid by the concerned khadi institutions (which are basically NGOs enlisted with KVIC/State Khadi and Village Industries Boards) on piece work basis. As far as Village Industry artisans are concerned, the wages are paid generally on the basis of output of the individuals employed by the entrepreneurs in the units set up by them with margin money assistance from Government of India through KVIC under schemes including erstwhile Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and the present Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

However, for upliftment of khadi artisans and weavers, the Government of India through KVIC implements a number of schemes which include Janashree Bima Yojana (JBY) to provide insurance to khadi artisans and weavers, Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans providing assistance for construction of worksheds for better work environment, Scheme for Enhancing Productivity and Competitiveness of Khadi Industry and Artisans to assist 200 khadi institutions to make khadi industry competitive with more market driven and profitable production by replacement of obsolete, old machinery and equipment and Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) providing need-based assistance for replacement of production equipment, setting up of common facility centres (CFC), product development, quality improvement, improved marketing, training and capacity building, etc.

(c) As on 30 September 2009, the total employment in khadi and village industries sector was estimated as 107 lakh persons.

Micro and small enterprises in Tamil Nadu

1782. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of micro and small enterprises existing as on date in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number out of them which are sick and how many of them are revivable or potentially viable; and

(c) the steps Government has taken or proposes to take for rehabilitation of all sick micro and small enterprises in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) As per the Quick Results of Fourth All India Census of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with the reference year of 2006-07 and the estimates made thereafter the number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (both registered and unregistered) existing in the State of Tamil Nadu as on 31.03.2009 were 25,95,127.

(b) As per the date compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from the scheduled commercial banks, there were 4,972 sick micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the State of Tamil Nadu as at the end of March, 2009, out of which 834 sick MSEs were potentially viable.

(c) Financial assistance, by way of debt restructuring, including fresh loans, for the rehabilitation of sick MSEs is provided by the primary lending institutions (PLIs), including commercial banks, which provide credit to the MSEs. For this purpose, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks in January 2002 on detection of sickness in MSEs at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick MSEs identified as potentially viable. RBI has also issued guidelines on 8th September 2005 on debt restructuring mechanism for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) which relate, *inter alia*, to viability criteria, prudential norms for restructured accounts, provision of additional finance and time frame for working out the restructuring package and its implementation. Further, the RBI has advised all scheduled commercial banks on May 4, 2009 to apply the RBI's guidelines on debt restructuring optimally and in letter and spirit and put in place their own non-discretionary one-time settlement (OTS) policy for the MSE sector.

Shoe industry of Agra

1783. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rising costs and shrinking markets have adversely hit the centuries old shoe industry of Agra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of person engaged in the industry and the steps taken by Government to revive and revamp the industry in Agra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) to (c) The figures of All India Census of MSMEs (3rd and 4th) indicate that the number of units and employment in Footwear manufacturing in Agra increased from 1970 and 12417 in 2001-02 to 2725 and 17892 in 2006-07 respectively. Figures available for the registered sector in footwear manufacturing in Agra also shows an increase in gross output and fixed assets over the same period.